Public Law 101-186
101st Congress

Joint Resolution

Nov. 28, 1989
[S.J. Res. 159]

To designate April 22, 1990, as Earth Day, and to set aside the day for public activities promoting preservation of the global environment.

Whereas we face an international environmental crisis that demands the attention of the American people and citizens of every nation in the world, and we must build alliances that transcend the boundaries dividing countries, continents, and cultures in order to solve it;

Whereas we need to confront environmental problems of increasing severity, including climate change; depletion of the stratospheric ozone layer; loss of forests, wetlands, and other wildlife habitats; acid rain; air pollution; ocean pollution; and hazardous and solid waste buildup;

Whereas we must educate and encourage individuals to recognize the environmental impact of their daily lives by becoming environmentally responsible consumers, conserving energy, increasing recycling efforts, and promoting environmental responsibility in their communities;

Whereas it will take major public policy initiatives to cure the causes of environmental degredation, such as phasing out the manufacture and use of chlorofluorocarbons, minimizing and recycling solid wastes, improving energy efficiency, protecting biodiversity, promoting reforestation, and moving toward sustainable development throughout the world;

Whereas almost twenty years ago, millions of Americans joined together on Earth Day to express an unprecedented concern for the environment, and their collective action resulted in the passage of sweeping laws to protect our air, our water, and the lands around us;

Whereas we must make the 1990s an "International Environment Decade", and forge an international alliance to respond to global environmental problems; and

Whereas to inaugurate this environmental decade, we must once again stand up together in cities, towns, and villages around the world for a day of collective action to declare our

shared resolve:
Now, therefore, be it